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## State of North Carolina DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

JAMES B. HUNT JR. GOVERNOR P.O. BOX 25201, RALEIGH, N.C. 27611-5201

E. Norris Tolson Secretary

August 11, 1998

MEMORANDUM TO:

Len A. Sanderson

State Highway Administrator

FROM:

Corridor Selection Committee

SUBJECT:

US 70 Havelock Bypass, Craven County, Federal Aid

Project No. STP-NHF-F-56-4(34), State Project No.

8.T170701, TIP Project No. R-1015,

The Environmental Assessment (EA) for the subject project was approved by the Federal Highway Administration on January 27, 1998. The approved EA was distributed to the Federal and state environmental regulatory agencies and to the public for comment in February 1998. A pre-hearing workshop and a corridor public hearing were on held May 26, 1998. The post hearing meeting to discuss input received during the hearing was held July 20, 1998.

During the planning, environmental and engineering studies, extensive coordination was undertaken with environmental regulatory agencies. A steering committee consisting for federal, state and local representatives was formed to provide assistance, comments and review during the planning process. Numerous meetings were conducted with U. S. Forest Service officials from the Croatan National Forest and the regional office in Asheville, North Carolina. The result of this coordination was concurrence from the agencies with the selection of Alternative 3 as the "least damaging environmentally preferred alternative" (LEDPA) in accordance with the Interagency Agreement Integrating Section 404/NEPA.